

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 A-01 SY-04 OCL-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 EUR-12 /059 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:MR

APPROVED BY AF/P:JALINEHAN

AF/P:RBARRETT (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT:GUIDANCE ON EVACUATION

1. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT
SPOKESMAN FOR NOON BRIEFING FEBRUARY 4. PERTINENT REFERENCES
IN TRANSCRIPT OF BRIEFING WILL BE SENT SEPARATELY.

2. FOR BACKGROUND ONLY:

THE SITUATION IN ASMARA CONTINUES TO BE TENSE WITH
SPORADIC FLARE-UPS OF FIGHTING.ELECTRICITY AND WATER
SYSTEMS ARE NOT FUNCTIONING. WE HAVE NO REPORTS OF NUMBERS
OF KILLED AND WOUNDED THOUGH UPI REPORTS NEARLY 200 HAVE
BEEN KILLED.

Q. ARE WE EVACUATING AMERICANS FROM ASMARA?

A. WE HAVE ESSENTIALLY COMPLETED EVACUATION OPERATIONS FROM
ASMARA. WE ARE EVACUATING DEPENDENTS OF US GOVERNMENT
EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS OF CONTRACT PERSONNEL FROM THE
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KAGNEW COMMUNICATION STATION AS WELL AS THOSE PRIVATE

AMERICANS IN THE AREA WHO WISH TO LEAVE. WE HAVE APPROXIMATELY 85 DEPENDENTS IN ADDITION TO A TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 100 PRIVATE AMERICANS. US GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL AND CONTRACT EMPLOYEES ARE REMAINING AT POST.

IF ASKED:

Q. HOW ARE YOU EVACUATING THEM?

A. BY AIR TO ADDIS USING, PRINCIPALLY, AIRCRAFT CHARTERED FROM ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES. THE EVACUATION IS BEING CARRIED OUT WITH THE FULL COOPERATION OF THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES.

Q. ARE OTHER NATIONALITIES BEING EVACUATED?

A. WE ARE COOPERATING IN THE EVACUATION OF OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS PARTICULARLY BRITISH, CANADIANS AND COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS TOTALLING APPROXIMATELY 220.

Q. HOW LONG WILL YOU KEEP DEPENDENTS IN ADDIS?

A. WE HAVE NO PLANS FOR EVACUATION FROM ADDIS.

Q. WHO IS IN CHARGE OF ASMARA?

A. THE CONSUL GENERAL GEORGE SHERRY IS PRESENTLY IN THE UNITED STATES. HE HAS BEEN ON HOME LEAVE BUT IS CURRENTLY IN THE DEPARTMENT. THE POST IS CURRENTLY IN THE CHARGE OF CONSUL ROBERT C. PERRY. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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